Date: May 9, 2003

Contact: Mary Clark, 406-896-5205

BILLINGS – A pre-bid conference is scheduled in Sturgis, S.D., to explain a federal solicitation for fuels reduction services throughout the western states. All contracts will be awarded to small businesses. The conference is offered at no cost.

The Bureau of Land Management plans to issue multiple contracts for a wide range of work to reduce the risk of wildland fires. The Forest Service, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs will also have authority to place orders on these contracts. The contracts may include slashing; girdling; lop and scatter; selective slashing; pruning; fuel modification zone construction; hand piling and cover; prescribed burning and mop-up; fire line construction and maintenance; fuels pullback; snag felling; roadblock removal/restoration; and prescribed fire plan preparation furnishing labor, transportation, operating supplies and incidentals.

The conference will be at the Best Western Sturgis Inn, Exit 32 off Interstate 90, on May 19 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

To access the solicitation, go to http://ideasec.nbc.gov and query for Request for Proposal No. NAR030061. Interested parties should plan to attend one of the pre-bid conferences and bring a copy of the solicitation.

Please contact Mary Clark, BLM Procurement Analyst, at 406-896-5205 with any questions.